CONFERENCE OF THE EIGHTEEN-NATION COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT

ENDC/266
26 August 1969
Original: ENGLISH

CANADA

Chemical and Bacteriological (Biological) Warfare:
Draft United Nations General Assembly Resolution

To facilitate consideration at the XXIV United Nations General Assembly of that part of the Report of the ENDC on chemical and bacteriological (biological) warfare, the Canadian Delegation submits the following draft resolution which has been developed from the remarks made by the Canadian Representative at the 424th meeting of the Committee on 31 July 1969. The draft resolution takes into account the Report of the Secretary-General on chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons and the effects of their possible use (A/7575 of 1 July 1969), the proposals of delegations, especially those of the Delegation of Poland, on this Report, the draft Convention on the Prohibition of Biological Methods of Warfare submitted by the Delegation of the United Kingdom (ENDC/255 of 10 July 1969) as well as other views advanced by various delegations on this subject during the 1969 session of the Committee.

GE.69-19323
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DRAFT GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION ON CBW

The General Assembly,

Recalling its Resolution 2454 (A) (XXIII) of 20 September 1968,

Having considered the Report of the Secretary-General of 1 July on chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons and the effects of their possible use,

Noting the recommendations of the Secretary-General contained in the foreword to his Report,

Noting further the conclusion of the Report that chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons stand in a class of their own as armaments which exercise their effects solely on living matter,

Sharing the sense of horror also expressed in the Report at the idea that bacteriological (biological) weapons could deliberately be used to spread disease,

Mindful of the further conclusion of the Report that the prospects for general and complete disarmanent under strict and effective international control and hence for peace throughout the world would brighten significantly if the development, production and stockpiling of chemical and biological agents intended for purposes of war were to end and if they were eliminated from all military arsenals,

Having considered the Report of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmanent on its preliminary consideration of the action to be taken in the light of the Report of the Secretary-General,

Recognizing the importance of the Geneva Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare signed at Geneva on 17 June 1925,

Conscious of the need to maintain inviolate the Geneva Protocol and to ensure its universal applicability,

1. Reaffirms Resolution 2162 (B) of 5 December 1966 and calls anew for strict observance by all States of the principles and objectives of the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva on 17 June 1925;

2. Invites all States to accede to the Geneva Protocol;

3. Welcomes the Report of the Secretary-General on chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons and on the effects of their possible use, and expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General and to the consultant experts who assisted him;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to publicize the Report in as many languages as is considered desirable and practicable, making use of the facilities of the United Nations Office of Public Information;

5. Recommends to all Governments the publication of the Report, translated as appropriate, so as to acquaint public opinion with its contents, and invites the specialized agencies, regional inter-governmental organizations, and national and international non-governmental organizations to use their facilities to make the Report widely known;

6. Recommends the Report of the Secretary-General to the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament as a basis for its further consideration of the question of the elimination of chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons;

7. Commends the draft Convention on the Prohibition of Biological Methods of Warfare submitted by the United Kingdom and urges the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament to complete work on this draft Convention at an early date; and

8. Requests the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament to present a report on progress on all aspects of the problem of the elimination of chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons to the XXV United Nations General Assembly.